

SENATE BILL 26

P5, G1

0lr0578

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senators Miller, Kasemeyer, and Kittleman**

Requested: September 15, 2009

Introduced and read first time: January 13, 2010

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Constitutional Convention – Sense of the Voters**

3 FOR the purpose of providing, at the general election to be held in November 2010, for
4 the taking of the sense of the voters of the State as to the calling of a convention
5 for altering the Maryland Constitution or for framing a new one under Article
6 XIV, Section 2 of the Maryland Constitution.

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
8 MARYLAND, That:

9 (1) At the general election to be held on the first Tuesday after the
10 first Monday in November in the year 2010, there shall be submitted to the legal and
11 qualified voters of the State, for their decision, the question whether there shall be
12 called a convention for the purpose of altering the Maryland Constitution or of framing
13 a new Constitution, this question being submitted under the provisions of Section 2 of
14 Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution.

15 (2) There shall be placed upon the ballots to be used at that general
16 election in the manner prescribed by the General Election Laws of this State the
17 words “For a Constitutional Convention” and “Against a Constitutional Convention,”
18 so that each voter may clearly indicate in the manner prescribed in the General
19 Election Laws whether the voter is for or against calling a convention for altering the
20 present Maryland Constitution or framing a new one.

21 (3) The vote on the question of calling or not calling a constitutional
22 convention shall be received, counted, and canvassed in the manner prescribed by the
23 General Election Laws. The canvassing boards for each of the counties and the City of
24 Baltimore shall certify the vote on the question of calling a constitutional convention
25 to the Governor and the State Board of Elections. The Board of State Canvassers, at
26 the time of its meeting to make a statement of the vote cast for the candidates voted

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 for at that election, also shall make a statement of the vote cast on the question of
2 calling a constitutional convention. The Board of State Canvassers shall transmit the
3 statement to the Governor who, after receiving the statement, shall make a
4 proclamation of the result of the vote on the question of calling a constitutional
5 convention.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That notice of the question of
7 calling a constitutional convention that is to be submitted to the legal and qualified
8 voters of the State shall be given in the same manner and for the same time as is
9 required by § 8–102 (Notice of Elections) of the Election Law Article of the Annotated
10 Code of Maryland.

11 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 July 1, 2010.